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## Developmental Biology

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From the Society for Developmental Biology

## President's corner

The recent 74th annual meeting of the Society for Developmental Biology held in Snowbird, Utah on July 9–13, 2015 was a stimulating experience. Participants not only learned about important advances in broad areas of developmental biology but enjoyed hearing from many new scientists about how developmental biology also serves as a focal point for integrating innovations from a diverse array of other disciplines. Fresh on the heels of this exciting meeting, planning is already well underway for the 75th Annual Meeting which will be held in Boston at the Marriott Copley Place on August 4–8, 2016. To mark this three-quarter century milestone, we are jointly organizing the meeting with the International Society of Differentiation. One goal Chris Wylie, President of ISD, and I have for the meeting is to highlight the many interfaces between cell and developmental biology which have facilitated the remarkable progress being made in areas such as tissue engineering, stem cell programming, organoids and organs on a chip. This promises to be a great opportunity to learn more about how interdisciplinary approaches to developmental biology are making a big impact in diverse areas of the life sciences. The meeting will also provide an outstanding opportunity for students, postdoctoral researchers and early career faculty to present and discuss their research through poster sessions and oral presentations. A large number of abstracts will be selected for short talks in sessions throughout the meeting and there will be a dedicated plenary postdoctoral symposium. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us in Boston. Check the meeting website (<http://sdbonline.org/2016mtg>) regularly for updates.



Robb Krumlauf, SDB President 2015–2016, in Snowbird, Utah following SDB 74th Annual Meeting.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ydbio.2015.10.006>  
0012-1606/

The SDB has been very proactive in supporting its members and the scientific community. The SDB serves as a major sponsor of the Society's annual and regional meetings and contributes to the support of a wide variety of other national and international meetings, workshops and courses, including selected Gordon Research Conferences and the MBL Embryology Course. Proceeds from **Developmental Biology**, published under auspices of the Society have contributed significantly to these activities. The Editor-in-Chief (Marianne Bronner) and ten Editors are practicing scientists, ensuring the scientific quality of the journal. Most editors are active SDB members, four are past Presidents of the SDB, and one is the President-elect. The SDB is also affiliated with **WIREs Developmental Biology**, a collective resource of review articles and publishes **SDB Collaborative Resources (CoRe)**, a database of peer-reviewed images, movies and graphics for illustrating and teaching developmental biology. In addition, SDB is a partner of two other major online peer-reviewed educational resources: *Life Science Teaching Resource Community* for all levels, led by The American Physiological Society; and *CourseSource* for college biology courses. The publication activities and resources of the SDB are located on the SDB home page: <http://sdbonline.org/publications>.

Under the leadership of recent past Presidents (Lee Niswander, Marty Chalfie and Vivian Irish) the SDB Board of Directors has been actively exploring strategies for new initiatives to further enhance current efforts of the Society in promoting the field of developmental biology through education, training, research, access to resources and public outreach. New projects for supporting scientists, emerging model organisms and advances in technology are nearly complete!

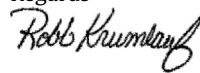
One of our most exciting and rewarding efforts has been **Choose Development!**, a three year partnership between the SDB and NSF Division of Integrative Organismal System (IOS) to broaden participation of undergraduates in the field of developmental biology. The aim of the project is to increase the diversity of undergraduate students that enter post-graduate degree programs in pursuit of research careers in fields related to developmental biology. This novel program stresses professional development and training through extended summer lab research and supervision by expert faculty mentors ([http://www.sdbonline.org/choose\\_development](http://www.sdbonline.org/choose_development)). This project has been very successful, resulting in a transition of undergraduate participants into PhD degree programs and research environments. You can meet the fellows at: [http://www.sdbonline.org/choose\\_development\\_fellows](http://www.sdbonline.org/choose_development_fellows). Unfortunately, the future of this NSF pilot program is uncertain and funding for SDB will end in March 2016. This SDB Board sees this program as an effective mechanism to build upon the strong culture of inclusiveness in the field of developmental biology. Therefore, based on the positive evaluation of this program and the successful outcomes of its bright and enthusiastic students the Board of Directors has decided to provide two additional years of bridging funds to recruit new students into the program,

capitalizing on the momentum created in these three years. The Society also sees this an opportunity for establishing longer-term continuity of this program by exploring partnerships with multiple universities and groups of PIs to serve as hosts and faculty mentors.

The SDB is excited about the future of our field and values any feedback or ideas from the members to enhance our ability to

fulfill the commitment to promoting high quality education, research and outreach.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Robb Krumlauf". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Robb Krumlauf, PhD  
SDB President 2015–2016